

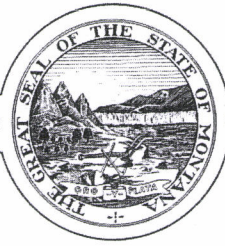
COMMISSIONER OF
POLITICAL PRACTICES

SENATE FINANCE & CLAIMS

Exhibit No. 4

Date 4-3-13

Bill No. HB 2



STATE OF MONTANA

JAMES W "JIM" MURRY
COMMISSIONER
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Mission Statement:

To monitor and to enforce, in a fair and impartial manner, campaign practices and campaign finance disclosure, lobbying disclosure, business interest disclosure of statewide and state district candidates, elected state officials, and state department directors, ethical standards of conduct for legislators, public officers, and state employees and to investigate legitimate complaints that arise concerning any of the foregoing.

Candidates/IT

- Implemented mandatory electronic filing for all statewide candidates on March 6th, 2012.
- Worked with several entities to provide Candidate Campaign Schools for the 2012 election cycle.
- Staff attended and instructed at the 2012 Council on Governmental Ethics Conference in Columbus, Oh.
- Processed, Audited and Certified the following:
 - a. 872 Candidates
 - b. 160 Ballot Issue Committees/Incidental Committees
 - c. 156 PAC's
 - d. 126 Party Committees

2013 Lobbyists/Principals

- Registered approx. 243 lobbyists (as of 1/8/13)
- Registered approx. 295 principals (as of 1/8/13)

Complaints and Decisions

- 48 campaign finance complaints on the docket (10 since the November election)
- 1 ethics complaint of the docket
- 1 lobbying complaint
- 13 Investigations are complete
- 5 campaign finance complaints are stayed pending District Court
- 20 decisions issued
- 13 dismissed
- 7 Active Investigations

Litigation

- Western Tradition Partnership I
- Western Tradition Partnership II
- Western Tradition Partnership III
- MRP v. COPP – resolved
- ATP v. COPP
- MRP v. Schweitzer, COPP
- Lefer v. COPP
- Berry v. Gallik - resolved
- Fox v. Molnar- appealed Supreme Court decision
- Zastrow v. COPP, AG, McCulloch, Yellowstone County
- Sanders County Republican Central Committee v. COPP - Resolved
- National Association for Gun Rights v. COPP

Budget Proposal

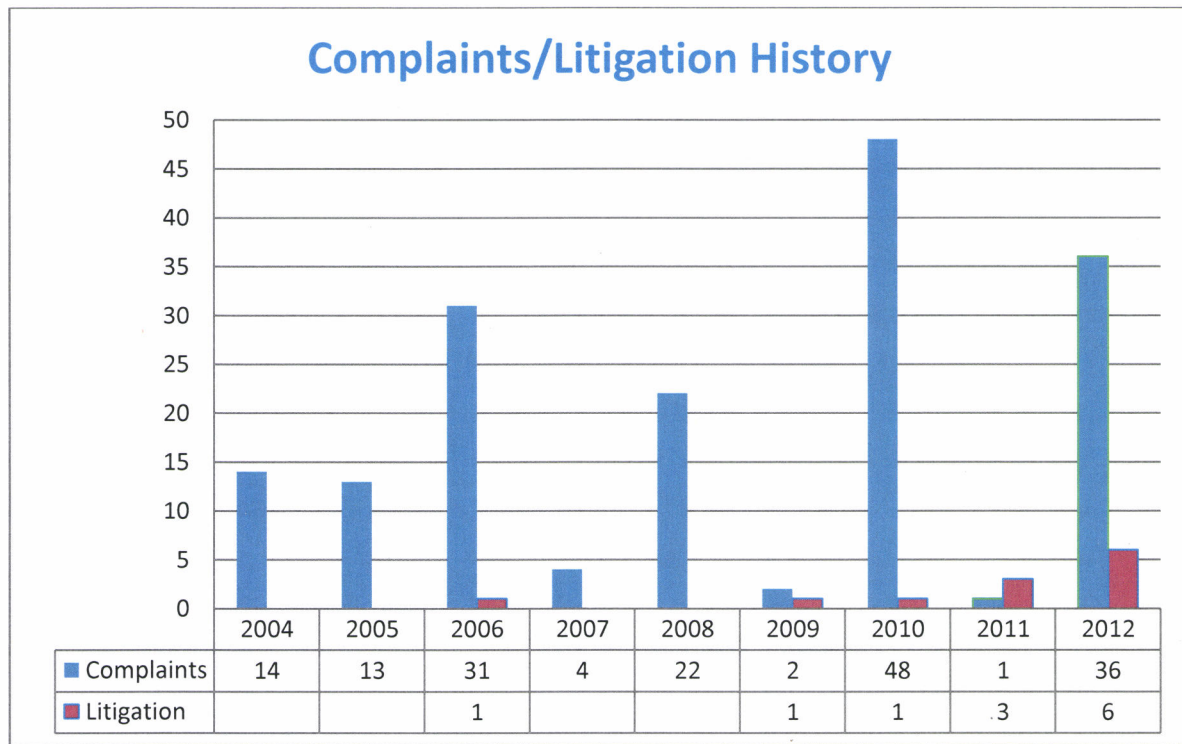
COPP requested a full time agency legal counsel, at a cost of \$71,503 per fiscal year. The 2007 Legislature granted us a full time investigator, which has helped with the backlog of cases. However, the contracted attorney at the Department of Justice can't keep up with the investigator. The contract attorney is only available for one quarter of his time. In addition to the complaint docket, COPP has seen a significant increase in litigation. An agency legal counsel will save the taxpayers up to \$14,000 per fiscal year.

Contact Information

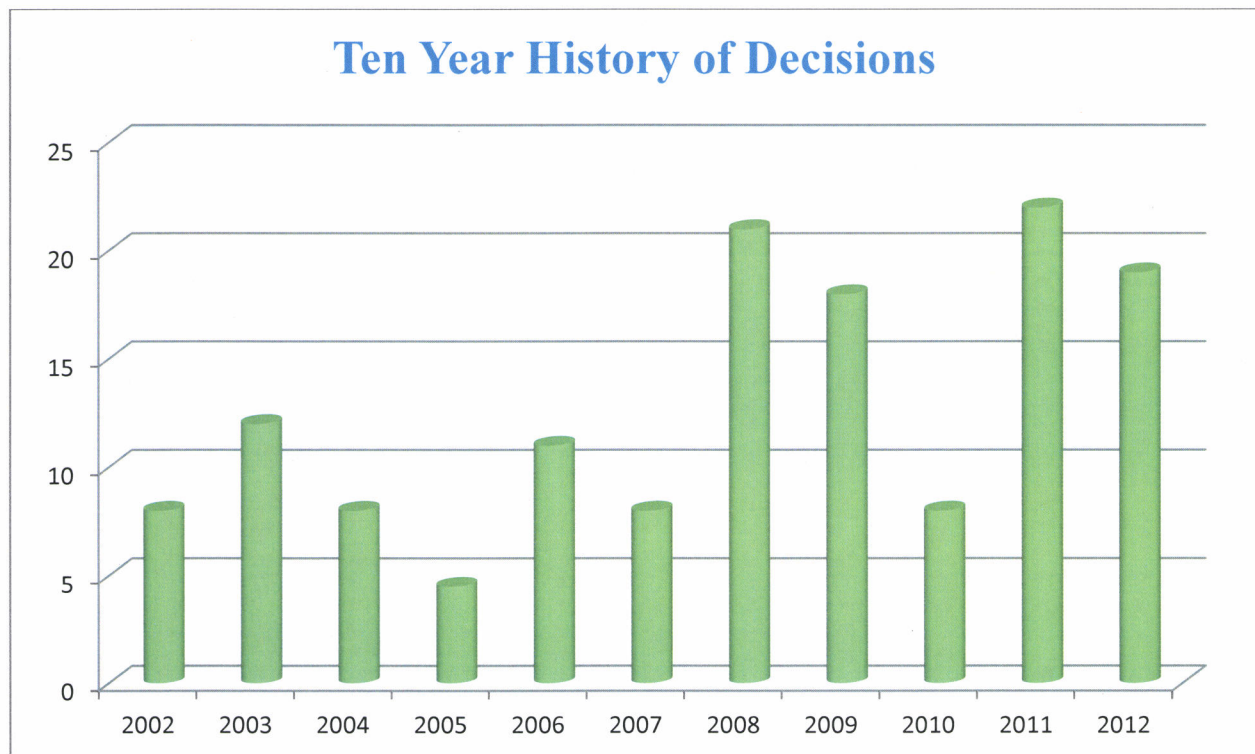
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- Since 2004 the number of complaints have increased by 140%
- Lawsuits have tripled since 2008



2007 Legislature authorized FTE (Investigator), 47% increase in the number of decisions completed

COPP Legal Cost since 2010									
	Base	Actual Legal Expenditure	Difference						
2010	\$106,324.00	\$117,655.00	-\$11,331.00						
2011	\$67,000.00	\$103,873.00	-\$36,873.00						
2012	\$85,200.00	\$111,821.00	-\$26,621.00						
2013	\$85,300.00	\$52,238.00	\$33,062.00	(4 mos remaining in the fiscal year, the balance will be zero)					
		<i>Italics indicate base + supplemental</i>							